

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE

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2004 Idaho Planting Intentions

Idaho farmers intend to seed 450,000 acres of spring wheat, down 6 percent from last year, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. Winter wheat seedings, at 720,000 acres, decreased 5 percent from the 2003 crop. All wheat planted in Idaho is expected to total 1.17 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. Barley seedings are expected to total 700,000 acres, down from last season's 750,000 acres. Oat seedings are expected to be 125,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from last year. Oats harvested for grain are expected to total 25,000 acres, unchanged from 2003. Corn plantings are expected to be 180,000 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Dry bean planting intentions are up 5,000 acres from last year at 80,000 acres. Dry bean estimates include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. All hay harvested, at 1.54 million acres, is expected to be up 3 percent from 2003. Sugarbeet plantings are expected to total 197,000 acres, down 5 percent from last year's 208,000 acres planted.

Nationally, producers intend to plant 13.3 million acres of other spring wheat in 2004, down 4 percent from last year. Winter wheat seedings totaled 43.4 million acres, down 3 percent from the 2003 crop. All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.5 million acres for the 2004 crop, down 4 percent from 2003. Barley growers intend to seed 4.68 million acres for 2004, down 12 percent from a year ago. Area planted to dry beans is expected to total 1.33 million acres, down 5 percent from last year and 31 percent below two years ago. Acreage expected to be planted to corn was up slightly from last year at 79.0 million acres. Other crops of interest have the following intentions and are listed with their respective percent changes from 2003.

Oats	4.31 million acres	-6.3 percent
Sugarbeets	1.36 million acres	-0.5 percent
All Hay	63.7 million acres	+0.6 percent

Acreage actually planted may vary from those indicated as a result of weather, economic conditions, availability of production inputs and the effect of this report itself.

For more information call: (208) 334-1507